

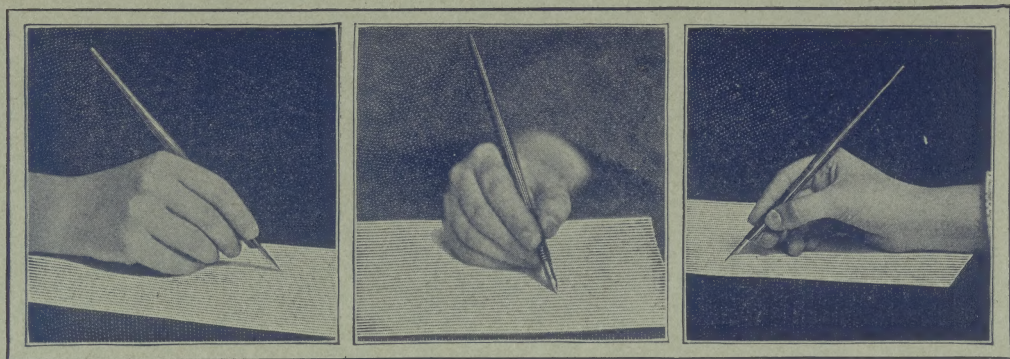
# BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT PENMANSHIP



No 1

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It may be stated as a general rule, that easy, rapid, and graceful writing is not produced in a labored, cramped, and awkward position. The muscles employed in writing must be at ease in order to work freely; hence, some simple directions for position, pen-holding, movement, etc., may be helpful.

**The page** should be turned a little to the left, and should be kept well forward toward the front of the desk, and moved further and further forward as the writing approaches the foot of the page.

**The hand** should rest on the side of the little finger, as shown in the cuts at the head of this page, and not on the nails of two fingers, as the latter position tends to give too great a slant to the writing. The fingers should be well extended, and never doubled up or cramped. Hold the pen very lightly with the least possible pressure. Remember that if the pen protrudes well beyond the fingers the tendency to cramp and tire the hand will be lessened.

**The arms** should rest upon the desk, the right with the muscles of the forearm acting as a pivot, the left extended as far as the proper holding of the page will permit. Unless the left arm rests well upon the desk, the shoulder will drop, and the spine will be improperly bent.

**The Body.**—Pupils should sit fronting the desk, with both feet on the floor, and not drawn back under the seat. Avoid bending to one side and avoid stooping. Teachers should distinguish between the necessary and proper inclination of the body, bending forward at the hips, and the curving of the back and the rounding of the shoulders, which must be constantly guarded against.

**Movement.**—Almost any one can *draw* script letters with approximate accuracy. To write them rapidly and accurately requires skill, and this is attained only by practice. Daily exercises in movement should be given, preferably in practice books. See to it that the exercises are round, full, free, and relatively rapid.

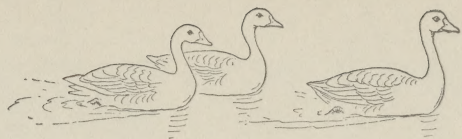
**Uniformity of Slant and Size of Letters.**—Pupils should strive to make each individual letter legible and unmistakable, and all letters of uniform size and slant.





Our new vase Ox

Our new vase. Ox



Geese can swim. G

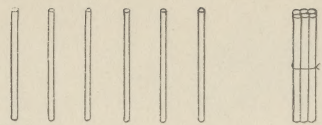
Geese can swim. G





Emma sees roses.

Emma sees roses.



$$////// = 6$$

*Six ones are six. S*

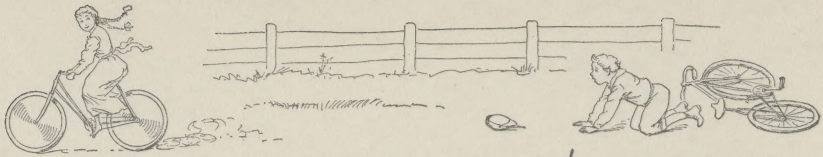
*Six ones are six. S*





Lemons are sour. L

Lemons are sour. L



Dora won a race.

Dora won a race.

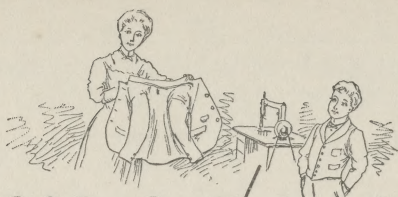




Now we can run.

Now we can run.





May made a coat.

May made a coat.





Vixen is our cat. V

Vixen is our cat. V





Under pine trees. U

Under pine trees. U





Yarn is spun. Yew

Yarn is spun. Yew





Will squirrels bite?

Will squirrels bite?



Poor little robin! P

Poor little robin! P





Boats sail in water.

Boats sail in water.



Robert, jump up. R

Robert, jump up. R





Here is a jolly-boat.

Here is a jolly-boat.



Kitty, come here. K

Kitty, come here. K





*X is a queer letter. Z*

*X is a queer letter. Z*



Indians are red. I

Indians are red. I





Three baby foxes.

Three baby foxes.



# BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT PENMANSHIP.

## STANDARD FORMS.

a b c d e f g h i j  
k l m n o p q r r  
s t u v w x y z

A B C D E F G H I  
J K L M N O P Q R  
S T U V W X Y Z  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 \$ % & @

## OPTIONAL FORMS.

b d f g j k h s t  
A B b D D E F G H  
I L L M N P Q R S



# BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT PENMANSHIP.

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Neither an extreme slant nor a vertical script is natural to the average writer. BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT COPY-BOOKS are based on this belief.

An extreme slant tends to angularity and illegibility. The best vertical writing, though legible, is apt to be slow, and tends to an unsightly backhand; or the letters frequently point in every direction except the perpendicular. Careful experiments conducted with some thousands of children have shown that there is a certain angle at which the great majority of pupils naturally write, if left to themselves. An examination of hundreds of letters written by adults, whose handwriting is fully formed and settled, and the specimens in every case having been selected because of their legibility, revealed the same prevailing slant. It is believed, therefore, that in fixing upon this slant as the basis for a series of copy-books, and designating it the *Natural Slant*, the authors are fully justified in claiming that they are meeting a real need of the schools.

**Forms of Letters.**—Natural Slant copies are designed to be *written, not printed*. They have the simplicity and the full, round, open style of the best vertical forms, but avoid some of the extremes and eccentricities that have characterized that style of writing. In every instance the form of capital employed has been selected, first, because of its legibility; second, because of its ease of execution; and third, because of its graceful form.

The copies have been composed in the belief that children are rational beings, and do not enjoy writing senseless iterations of senseless words or meaningless parts of words. Every copy is *sensible* and *significant*, and as nearly as possible the subject matter relates to topics which interest the pupils of the grades for which the respective books are intended. In other words, the writing exercises are made to correlate with the other branches of study pursued in the schools.

## BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT SERIES consists of:

Books A, B, C, and D, small size, illustrated, to be written with pencil or pen.

Book A contains single words.

Books B, C, and D, phrases and sentences.

Books 1 and 2, full size, illustrated, giving two copies to the page.

Books 3 and 4, single copies to the page.

Books 5 and 6, containing copies from one line to four lines in length.

Books 7 and 8 are devoted to social and business forms and the elements of book-keeping.

## BARNES'S NATURAL SLANT PENMANSHIP CHARTS.

Four sheets most conveniently arranged for hanging upon the wall.

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